Local Happenings

S. Sgt. James E. Maxwell, of San Antonio, Texas, is spending a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Maxwell.

Mr. and Mrs. Lenwood Harvey and son, Clyde spent Sunday with her brother, S. Sgt. James E. Maxwell in the home of her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Page have received word that their son, Charlie has arrived in Germany. He entered the service in October.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Ford, Jr. and daughter, Donnis, of Blacksburg are spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Mitchell.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie S. Barron, of Washington, D. C., will arrive Friday to spend Christmas with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Doss.

Miss Bolling Conner, a senior at William and Mary College, is spending the holidays here with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Conner.

The Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Robinson, of Nellysford will arrive Sunday to spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson.

Mr. and Mrs. K. E. Coleman and son, Ken, of Lynchburg will spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Johnson. They plan to spend Christmas day with his mother, Mrs. Royal Coleman.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Crawley, of Richmond are spending the holidays with his mother, Mrs. L. Crawley.

W. J. Smith, of Richlands was a visitor here this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Robinson will spent Friday night and Saturday in Richmond.

Mrs. C. C. Rosser and son, Calvin, of Pamplin were visitors in Appomattox Saturday.

Miss Fay Wood, of Ferrum College is spending the Christmas holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cawthorn.

Mrs. Elizabeth S. Bingham, of Altavista will spend Christmas with her mother, Mrs. L. E. Smith.

Friends are glad to hear that Mrs. Joel Guill has recovered from a recent illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris and Miss Katie Woodson spent Thursday of last week in Richmond.

Billy Evans, of Washington, D. C. spent the past week-end here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Evans.

Miss Alice Harwood and Mrs. Bessie V. Caldwell spent Sunday in Kendbridge with Mrs. Banks Frazier and Mrs. Jack Dickerson.

Thomas Smith is home for the holidays.

Mrs. Hugh D. Bolton, of Lynchburg, bedridden for nearly ten years, an arthritis sufferer is now a patient in the Leo N. Levi Memorial Hospital in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Mrs. Bolton left Lynchburg last Thursday morning by plane from the Preston Glenn Air Port. Mrs. Bolton is the neice of Mrs. J. P. Johnson, of Route 2.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Franklin spent last night with her parents, Mr. and L. K. Almond, of Hixburg.

Mrs. Sid Conner, of Roanoke, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Talmadge Fulp.

Miss Florence McFadden, of Mars Hill College, N. C., is home for the holidays. She had as her guest on Tuesday night Miss Aileen Cunningham, of Mars Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Burkey, of Richmond will spend Christmas day here with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Caudle, of Richmond will visit her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Harwood, Sr., during the holidays.

Mrs. Frances Cheatham will leave Friday to spend Christmas in New York with her daughter, Miss Mary Frances Cheatham.

Miss Mildred McDearmon, of Columbia, S. C. has arrived to spend the holidays here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. McDearmon. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Witt, Jr. and children and Richard McDearmon, of Richmond will arrive Saturday to spend Christmas in this home.

Mrs. L. L. Gayle will leave Sunday to spend Christmas in Richmond.

Miss Shirley Stanley ,a student at Madison College, is home for the holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Moses, Jr. and children and Mrs. Reginald Spier and son spent Tuesday in Richmond.

Harry Gordon Lawson, a student at the University of Virginia is at home for the holidays. He was accompanied by "Dick" Marks, who will spend several days with him.

Miss Marjorie Woody will leave this week-end to spend the holidays at her home in Petersburg.

Robert Doss is recovering at his home here from a recent operation.

Let Us Help You Select Your Gifts

FOR THE LADIES -	
Nylon Gowns	4.50 & 4.95
Tricoknit Jersey Gowns	2.98 & 3.75
Bed Jackets	3.95
SLIPS - lace trimmed or tailored	2.98 - 3.95 & 4.49
Berkshire Nylon Hose	1.65 & 1.95
DRESS GLOVES - white, brown, grey and black	1.79
Angoro Gloves - finger or mittens	2.98
WOOL GLOVES	1.29 & 1.59
Evening Bags - gold, silver or white	2.25
Dressy Blouses - black or write - sequin trim	5.75
LUGGAGE - plus tax	2.75 to 7.75
TOYS -	
Red Metal Wagons	1.98 - 3.75 & 9.25
Sleds	3.95 - 5.95 & 6.50
Trycycles	2.98 to 10.50
Doll Carriages	5.75 & 6.25
Electric Stoves	4.95 & 7.95
Sinks	79c to 1.49
Electric Trains	12.95 & 21.50
Erector Sets	2.98
Roller Skates	1.75 & 3.75
Doll Houses 2.19 - Doll Furniture, per room	1.00
Electric Irons	98c
Trucks & Tractors	49c to 3.25
BB Air Rifles	1.98 & 3.75
Trin Dolls	10.95
Doll Cradles	1.00
oy Pianos	2.98 - 3.98 & 4.95
Tea Sets	39c to 1.25
Doll Trunks	1.19 & 4.75
Beautiful Dolls	1.00 to 14.95
BABY GIFTS -	
SHOES	1.50 & 2.25
SHAWLS	2.98
SWEATER SETS	2.25 & 2.98
COTTON SWEATERS	1.49 & 1.98
DRESSES	1.59
DIAPER BAGS	1.59
Spencer Draw String Gowns	79c
Towel & Wash Cloth Sets	59c to 1.39
White Blankets - satin border	2.25
Snow Suits - 2 years to 6X	7.25 to 10.95
Animal Toys - washable	1.00
Tree Decorations	Lights & Bulbs
Christmas Cards	Gift Wrapping Material

Shop with us often for special values

INGE'S DEPARTMENT STORE

Appomattox, Virginia

Letters to 'Santa Claus' Come From World Over

Postoffice officials in Santa Claus, Ind., are accustomed to overloaded sacks of mail during the pre-Christmas rush. Senders want their cards and gifts stamped with the famous Santa Claus postmark, plus thousands of wistful letters "Santa Claus, Santa Claus, Ind."

And then there is the annual crop of "Santa Claus" letters written by youngsters in far-away places who haven't heard about Santa's permanent address in Indiana, U.S.A. At least a dozen versions of the time honored note-in-the-bottle story find their way into metropolitan newspapers every year.

The notes, sealed in small bottles and securely tied to Christmas trees, are discovered by Christmas tree dealers, housewives; and even enlisted men at naval centers and military barracks: they come from places like Renous, a village in New Brunswick, Canada, boasting a total population of 85 inhabitants.

The notes range from the wistful to the desperate, requesting such things as a mamma doll, a sled, a sweater, or a pair of overshoes.

Robertson wants power line delay.

State set for the reopening of Camp Peary.

Uncle Sam Says

U.S. SAVINGS BONDS

Here's your answer on what to do for Christmas — Give the Present with a Future, U. S. Savings Bonds. Bond buying is the easiest shopping you can imagine, they're available at any bank, post office, or where you work. So, this Christmas, make your gift mean more than ever before. GIVE U. S. SAVINGS BONDS FOR CHRISTMAS!

U. S. Treasury Department

Use Christmas Seals.

'Grandpa Frost' Helps Russians Celebrate Midwinter Festival

Although Christmas is no longer a holiday in Soviet Russia, a non-religious midwinter festival is celebrated and children receive gifts from "Grandpa Frost."

In Czarist Russia, it was customary to well-to-do families with large homes to entertain lavishly on Christmas day. The invitations were extremely formal and begged the invited to consider that.

". . . for thousands of years it has been so; with us it has not commenced, with us it will not cease. Do not, therefore, disturb the festival; do not bring the good people to despair. Without you there will be no maiden festival at Anna Karpowna's."

In planning these houseparties, hostesses gave particular attention to the selection of partners for the young ladies. The selection was sometimes very satisfactory and sometimes left something to be desired.

Arrival of the "fair maidens," each with her mother and retinue, bringing cake and sweetmeats and gifts for everyone, proceeded according to prescribed ritual: the guests sooner freezing in their sleds before the gate than to alight before receiving the greeting of the host and hostess.

Having been ceremoniously welcomed, the guests offered prayers before the icon (sacred picture) and then proceeded to the feasting and festivities arranged for them.

Santa Claus Hit As 'Sugar Daddy' Instead of Saint

Assailing the Santa Claus myth as 'foolish fiction' and rival of the Holy Child, the Rev. John S. Martin, editor of the Catholic Review, declared in a 1949 editorial that Santa the saint has been lost in Santa the sugar daddy—and that the whole idea is bad psychology and bad pedagogy.

"Our children learn about the reindeer, but have never heard of the ox and the ass," Father Martin continued and recommended that we:

Santa Claus

"Leave the man in the red suit to those who have nothing better . . . for whom life must end in disillusion and despair."

Father Martin's sentiments are reminiscent of Martin Luther's vigorous campaign against neglect of the central idea of Christmas, which is the birth of Jesus. So, German children have been taught that the Christkind brings the presents—Christkind being depicted as the messenger of the Infant Jesus sent earthward at Christmastime to bring happiness to good children.

The modern conception of Santa Claus is, of course, 99 per cent fictional and strictly American. But the spirit of generosity and thoughtfulness as typified by Santa Claus is neither sugar daddy-ish nor essentially American. Unfortunately not all children who await Santa have learned from their mothers' lips the story of the Holy Child.

Santa's Requests

Santa Claus still gets letters from youngsters with the same cherished requests—bicycles and dolls. But last year a child wanted a live cow. He told a department store Santa so.

Another kid wanted a new daddy because hers was "wearing out on top."

"ALL HE WANTS" . . . Young Edward Hospisa of New York makes known to Santa his Christmas wish. He said, to coin a phrase, "All I want for Christmas is my two front incisors." Whether he'll get them is another story.

Church News

PLAY AT HEBRON
BAPTIST CHURCH
FRIDAY NIGHT

A play entitled, "They That Sit in Darkness" by Dorothy Clarke Wilson, will be presented at Hebron Baptist Church Friday, December 22 at 7:30 P. M.

St. Ann Episcopal Church

Services Sunday, December 24. Sunday School, 9:45 A. M. Christmas Program.

11:00 A. M. Morning Prayer and Sermon by Herbert Tucker.

Appomattox C. H. Presbyterian Church

Dr. W. Twyman Williams, Pastor

Sunday School at 10 A. M.
Henry Pack, Sup't.

Worship Service, 11 A. M. Preaching by Pastor.

Christmas Vesper Service at 5:00 P. M.

Appomattox Circuit Methodist Churches

L. F. Callaham, Pastor

The Pastor will conduct the worship services at Bethel Church at 10 A. M. Subject, "The Rejected Christ," And at Trinity at 11:15 A. M.: subject, "When Jesus Came To Bethlehem." The public is cordially invited to these Christmas services.

Mt. Comfort Church and Sunday School will have its Christmas exercises and party Saturday evening at 7:30 P. M.

Trinity Church will give an interesting Christmas program Sun night, 7:30 o'clock.

Memorial Methodist Church

R. Carl Maxwell, Minister

9:45 A. M. Sunday School; Claude W. Smith, Superintenden

11:00 A. M. Morning Worship Topic, "Joyful Tidings." Anthe by the Youth Choir. Special m by Primaries.

4:30 P. M. Cantata-Drama: "Christmas Eve in Appomattox."

No service at 7:30 P. M.

Liberty Baptist Church

Sunday School at 9:30 A. M.

Preaching Service at 11:00 A.

Sermon by Mr. William Poston.

7:30 P. M. The Adult, Carol Vesper Choirs, under the direct of Miss Nancy Scott, will render program of special Christmas mu

Deep snow and bitter cold g mid-west area.

Dial 2811 for Times-Virginian

The annual Santa Claus treat the Appomattox Lions Club will held this Saturday afternoon.

More women get calls into fense plants.

Reds in Europe protest plans unified defense.

Auto makers discuss action price cuts.

Let us do your job printing.

Truman tells GOP that Aches to keep job.

Dial 2811 for Times-Virginian

Come in and See Our Fine Assortment OF TOYS

DOLLS -	
"JUST BORN" DOLLS	4.50 & 5.50
Beuatiful Dressed Dolls with Hair	4.95 to 6.98
Baby Dolls with Long Dresses	4.95
Other Dolls dressed or not dressed	49c to 2.98
"WANDA" THE WALKING DOLL - she walks, moves her arms and head, has real hair and goes to sleep - ONLY	14.95
DOLL CARRIAGES	4.75 & 5.95
DOLL STROLLERS	2.25 & 3.75
COOK STOVES	2.19 & 3.98
Tea Sets and Cooking Utensil Sets	35c to 1.49
Gun and Holster Sets	98c to 4.95
AIR RIFLES	1.98 to 3.49
Mechanical Tractors with snowplow	69c
Big Streamlined Racer	1.00
Adding Machine	1.89
Motorcycle Cop	1.49
Firechief Car with Siren	1.19
Firetruck - carries hose & pumps water	1.98
Cash Register	2.19
Music Boxes - with dancing figures	1.00 to 3.95
Blackboards	1.98
CARS - TRUCKS - BALLS - GAMES	
PUZZLES	
TRYCYCLES	2.98 to 12.50
RED WAGONS	1.98 to 9.5
TABLE & CHAIR SETS	5.75 & 6.95
TREE DECORATIONS, LIGHTS & BULBS	
CHRISTMAS CARDS	

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The Economy Store

APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA

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TIMES - VIRGINIAN

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A LIVE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER AT HISTORIC APPOMATTOX COURT HOUSE, VIRGINIA

VOLUME 58 NUMBER 52 — APPOMATTOX, VIRGINIA THURSDAY DECEMBER 28, 1950 — $1.50 PER YEAR — COPY 5¢

FATHER DARKLEAF

By The Editor

Herb Graffis, a columnist for the icago Times published the follow- Christmas classic in his column ember 24, 1942:

"ON THE HILL OF JESUS"

"There is, near the limit of Rom- l's furious advance, an elevation own as the Hill of Jesus.

"Why it was named the Hill of us I never have been able to n. Jesus was never near the e, except in spirit. But there are ous items in the nomenclature this war. Early major fighting on of this war was at a place d Puck in Poland. Shakespeare Puck saying, "What fools these tals be.'

"The moon shines tonight on the of Jesus and on the hurriedly- ked graves, scars of the cruci- n of mankind.

"The star of Bethlehem is serene st overhead. It bathes the silent of Jesus in its soft, merciful

"And the ghosts of fallen war- s walk out unafraid and talk ther.

"The ghosts are the wraiths of sh boys, Australian boys, Ger- n boys, Italian boys—boys from over this world Jesus came to . Ghosts have no country of their sh own. In Murmansk there are ts. In the Solomons there are sts.

"Tonight they arise as spirits who that Christmas might live. On Hill of Jesus and distant from sacredly-named mound tonight claim their kinship with Jesus, Prince of Peace. Brave and be- people think back to the times these boys came home from day school telling the story of manger, the genesis of the chap- of history that will record the mph of the common man.

"There will be soft sounds in dark ms, faintly echoing the merry erness that once was Christmas the excite djoyousness that was Christmas day.

"The ghosts will stroll around the of Jesus, homesick for those es where Christmas used to live. will talk to each other about foggy Christmases in old Eng- where Scrooge become a con- They will relate, wistfully, of Christmases in those little postcard towns in Germany the beast broke loose.

"The war will be over for them. fought to save Christmas and tmas is still here. They were rious—all of them, even the gaunt boys who were denied tmas as a nonsensical celebra- beneath the dignity of the r race. Christmas is the time giving and they gave all they

"They will think of home on tmas day and they'll say, 'Cheer mom and pop. We saved Christ- for the other folks, so don't it so hard. If you think living's , let's tell you that dying's no either when you're as young were. But we did ours. The move's up to you.

"And on that Hill of Jesus among gay ghosts will walk the one at Bethlehem on Christmas. too, will be of radiant cheer. pious might wince to see the gather reverently around for graphs. But not Jesus. He knows kids, and they've come unto ."

Will there be in Korea this tmas another "Hill of Jesus" the "gay ghosts" of more —American, English, Canadian, ralian, Turkish, Korean— will on Christmas eve to "come Him?"

IONS CLUB MEETS

e Appomattox Lions Club will tonight at 6:45 at the Lee urant This will be the last ng of the year.

d weather grips the nation.

t German government admits sibility to aid the Allies.

S. puts all maritime labor un- ecurity check-up rule.

Highway Dept. Tells of 1950 Work in Co.

The major emphasis in Appomattox County's secondary highway program during 1950 was directed toward resurfacing school bus routes and grading and stabilizing the lightly-traveled routes in the county, Resident Engineer William C. Poston has reported.

Probably the outstanding single project in the county during the year was the reconstruction and relocation of Route 605 at Bent Creek. Dangerous curves were widened, steep grades were eased and the road was raised sufficiently to prevent washouts during high water on the James River.

Also on the county roads during the year, the state hard-surfaced sections of Secondary Routes 627, 678, 691 and 1003, the latter being Isabell Street in the town of Appomattox.

Some 15 miles of the county's secondary highways were stabilized to strong, all-weather standards with crushed stone, gravel and other materials.

Three new bridges were built, including two structures on Route 627, to replace inadequate drainage structures and a bridge over Stonewall Creek on Route 670.

Three bridges were strengthened during the year. These included two crossings of David Creek, one on Route 605 and one on Route 615, and a bridge across Wolf Creek on Route 614.

Along with these improvements, state forces devoted considerable activity to routine maintenance improvements.

STATE TO OPEN TREE NURSERY

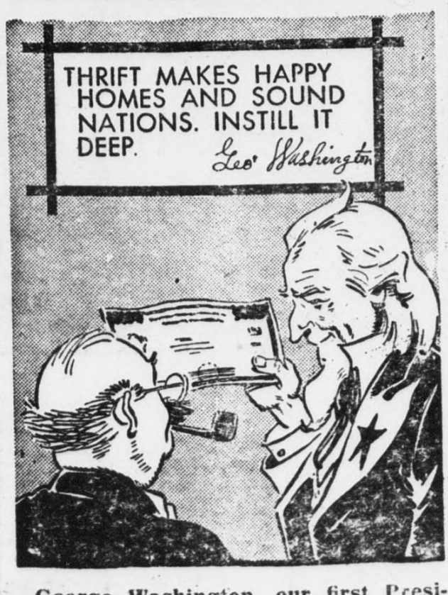
The Commission of Game and Inland Fisheries announced today, through its Executive Director, I. T. Quinn, that an agreement had been made with the Commission of Conservation and Development allowing the latter to use the former game farm property at Windsor Shades in New Kent County as a tree nursery.

The property has had only limited use as a game farm during the past five years, because the construction of Walker's Dam in the vicinity impounded such a large body of water that local humidity was increased to a point where the young game birds did not do well. During the past year, operations at the farm ceased entirely, and all stock and facilities were transferred to the game farm in Cumberland County.

The new tree nursery on the area is expected to be mostly devoted to the raising of pine, with some small plantings of other species being made. The property contains sufficient area to run the state's tree nursery production up to twenty million per year.

Complete transfer of the property between the two state agencies will be a matter for the next meeting of the General Assembly.

Uncle Sam Says


THRIFT MAKES HAPPY HOMES AND SOUND NATIONS. INSTILL IT DEEP.
Geo Washington

George Washington, our first President, said: "Thrift makes happy homes and sound nations. Instill it deep."

One of the best ways to put that advice into action is to enroll today for the Payroll Savings Plan for the purchase of U. S. Savings Bonds. NOW, LET'S ALL BUY U. S. SAVINGS BONDS.

U. S. Treasury Department

Dial 2811 for Times-Virginian

DEADLINE FOR PMA REPORTS

Appomattox County farmers who have not yet reported practices performed under the 1950 Agricultural Conservation Program have less than two weeks left.

C. C. Harvey, chairman of the PMA County Committee, repeated an earlier announcement that Monday, January 15, 1951, is the last day on which the local PMA office may accept farm reports as a basis for making cash conservation payments. He said that letters to that effect were mailed to all farmers who had not filed reports by December 15, 1950.

Farmers who bought lime, fertilizer, or seed for use in carrying out 1950 ACP practices should bring with them receipts or tags as evidence of such purchases in order to receive credit for their use. Farmers who cannot call at the PMA office in person may make their reports in writing, the chairman said.

MARIONETTE SHOW HERE NEXT WEEK

A Marionette Show will be presented at the Appomattox High School auditorium on Wednesday, January 3. There will be two performances, one in the morning and the other in the afternoon. "The Night Before Christmas" will be presented. The event is sponsored by the Ladies of the Presbyterian Church for the benefit of the Sunday School building fund. It is a repeat performance.

Load Limits Likely on State Roads

Emergency load restrictions will likely be placed on many state roads when warmer weather brings a thawing of deep frost now in the ground over most of Virginia, the State Highway Department announced this week.

By posting the light duty roads against heavy trucks, the Highway Department hopes to minimize road break-ups which might follow a sudden thaw.

The restrictions would apply mostly to secondary roads and light duty primary roads, the department said. Every effort will be made to retain the present limits of 20 and 25 tons on the heavy duty interstate and intercity roads. Most US numbered roads are in this category.

The department's eight district engineers have been authorized to post the routes in their respective areas if and when restrictions become necessary.

All but the strongest secondary routes would be posted for eight tons gross weight. Lightly surfaced primary roads would be restricted to eight or twelve tons.

The district engineers have been instructed to impose the restrictions as soon as they observe signs of softening or other symptoms of unusual weakness.

School busses and local milk trucks will be exempt from all restrictions, a spokesman said. Special permits will be issued to allow the movement of other emergency or critically-needed materials.

Frost ranging to more than six inches has been reported in many areas of the state. Following a thaw road bases will become soft and heavy loads could case widespread damage, according to highway engineers.

In the winter of 1947-48, quick thaws which followed a long, deep freeze, caused damage estimated in excess of $6,000,000.

"Our highway system is now particularly vulnerable because of continued severe weather," one engineer commented. "A great deal of frost is in the ground. Even under normal conditions, this would constitute a serious problem. Because of the present international situation and almost certain abnormal demands on materials and manpower, the problem may become critically acute."

Instructions given on how best to handle emergencies resulting from atomic, gas or germ attacks.

Home Agents Schedule

Home Demonstration Agent's schedule for the week of January 1 - 6, 1951:

Tuesday, Jan. 2.- There will be a leader training meeting for home demonstration club leaders on making lamps and lamp shades, to be held in the office of the home demonstration agent, beginning at 10 A. M. Please make every effort to have each club represented at this meeting, as instructions for January club demonstrations will be given. Members bring lunch.

Wednesday, Jan. 3.- The Glendale Home Demonstration Club will meet at 10:30 A. M. with Mrs. Eula Nash. The demonstration will be on making lamps and shades. Each member will bring a luncheon dish.

Thursday, January 4.- The Rocks Home Demonstration Club wil meet at 2:00 P. M. with Mrs. Rhomy Wilson. The demonstration will be making lamps and shades. Note the change of date.

Friday, Jan. 5.- The Lee Home Demonstration Club will meet at 10:30 A. M. with Mrs. H. A. Gurney. The demonstration will be making lamps and shades.Members bring lunch. Note change of date.

STUDENT SERVICE AT MEMORIAL CHURCH

The nine young men and young ladies of Memorial Methodist Church who are attending college this year will be honored by a special service at the church at 11 A. M., Sunday, December 31. Each of the nine college students has been invited to participate in the Student Recognition Day Program. The service will be conducted by the pastor, the Rev. R. Carl Maxwell. A Palestinian student from Randolph-Macon Woman's College will make the main address. The youth choir of the church will furnish special music. Mrs. Verna Conner, Secretary of Student Work of the local W. S. C. S., has assisted the pastor in preparing the program.

LIBERTY CHURCH TO VOTE ON CALL

A business meeting of the congregation of Liberty Baptist Church here has been called for next Sunday morning, December 31, following the morning worship service. It is understood that at this time the pulpit committee will make a recommendation that the church call to its pastorate Dr. [illegible] Sears, of Indiana, who recently supplied the church's pulpit. The church has been without a pastor since November 1.

Business Directory Of Virginia Firms

Richmond, Dec. 27.- Virginia business showed a net gain of more than 100 firms in 1950, the State Chamber of Commerce revealed today.

In the Chamber's annual Industrial Directory, a total of 1,550 businesses operating in the state are listed. Enterprises which are included are those employing 25 or more persons, plus all other firms belonging to the State Chamber.

The directory is contained in the December of The Commonwealth magazine, which is now being distributed to members and other subscribers, according to Williamy S. Lacy, the magazine's editor. The material will also be printed in pamphlet form for further distribution, Lacy said.

The December issue of The Commonwealth also includes articles dealing with the Newport News shipyard, the marketing of seafood, and the development of Hopewell as a city dedicated to manufacturing. Other subjects presented are the Mariners' Museum at Newport News, Roanoke's recent progress,the state's 20-year highway construction program, Christmas in Williasmsburg, aeronautical research at Langley Field, Virginia, civilian defense preparations, the artificial breeding of cattle, and the annual World Trade Conference which was sponsored by the State Chamber of Commerce at Norfolk in November.

The December issue is the largest in the 17-year history of The Commonwealth, Editor Lacy pointed out.

U. S. exacuates 105,000 troops from Hungnam.

Gov. Battle Reviews First Year In Office

Richmond, Dec. 27.- Sound progress in the field of public education and prompt action to meet the new problems originating with the national emergency marked Governor John S. Battle's first year in office.

A review of the chief executive's first twelve months showed the Commonwealth giving maximum attention to providing adequate school facilities and a strengthened course of instruction in the public free schools, with the shadow of wartime conditions evident in every phase of the state's programs for 1951.

The state approached the close of another calendar year in sound financial condition, its revenues aided by another unexpected upward trend arising from the expansion of the national defense program. School improvements were the top goal of 1950; the international situation largely will determine the course of state government activities in the New Year, with every indication that civil defense will take top priority.

'Civil defense,' said Governor Battle, 'will take the right of way over everything.'

Recalling his campaign emphasis on education, the Governor looked back over the year with cause for satisfaction in accomplishments in school building construction, in raising the salaries of teachers, in reemphasizing the fundamentals of instruction.

The General Assembly of 1950 appropriated $45,000,000 to assist in emergency school building construction, of which $30,000,000 was made available for allocation in 1950-51. As of this month, the State Board of Education has approved projects using $6,262,635 of State funds and calling for the expenditure of $11,069,023 of local money. The approved projects, either under way, completed or contracted for, include 36 new buildings for white pupils and 14 for Negroes. Total projects, including repairs, improvements and renovations, number 75 for whites and 31 for Negroes with facilities for 27,000 pupils.

The State Board has received and approved four-year building plans from 69 counties and 21 cities totaling $193,843,226, of which $32,315,037 would come from state funds. Governor Battle noted that the results of this program to date back his belief that the progra mas enacted by the General Assembly would result in the localities putting up far more money that a straight 'matching' plan would have required.

The war conditions probably will control the extent of future construction, but recent projects have been contracted for with relatively stable prices and he hopes the buildings can continue to go up without delay.

The General Assembly also voted the largest school appropriations in history, on the Governor's recommendation, to further increase teachers' pay and it is estimated that the average for all instructional personnel this session will be approximately $2,375.

The Governor's persistent emphasis on the fundamentals of instruction has brought widespread attention to strengthening the public school program. The State Toard of Education has adopted a declaration of policy reiterating the need for first attention on the 'Three R's', which are described as the basic tools of learning. A legislative commission is now engaged in restudying the foundation program of education and another commission is at work on providing a better textbook on Virginia history to be used in the public schools.

With civil defense taking an increasing proportion of his time and energies, Governor Battle looks forward to speeding up this work in order that the people of Virginia may be assured that all proper steps are being taken for the protection of the civilian population in event of atomic bombing attack. He hopes that the normal operations of the state government can be carried on without interruption, but should there be a conflict of interest, civil defense necessarily will take the right of way.

Meanwhile, his program to systematize and strengthen state governmental operations will proceed as an extension of the 1948 Reorganization program, under the direction of Weldon Cooper, who is on loan to the Governor's from the University of Virginia's Bureau of Public Administration. This work will have a doubly important place in view of the prospect of more personnel being called to military service and the need to spread duties of the various agencies and departments among those remaining in the state service.

Reflecting on his experience of the past year, Governor Battle concluded that the people of Virginia generally are eager to cooperate to maintain sound government and carry through the programs entrusted to it.

OAKVILLE POST OFFICE TO BE DISCONTINUED

The U. S. Post Office at Oakville will be discontinued as of January 1, 1951, and partons of the office will thereafter receive their mail by R. F. D. Four, Appomattox.

This change will leave Appomattox County with six postoffices: Appomattox, Pamplin, Evergreen,Vera, SpoutS Spring and Beckham. The Appomattox office is a first class office and has four rural routes.

LOCAL METHODISTS JOIN IN PEACE PRAYER

Local Methodists will join Sunday, December 31, with the denomination's nearly nine million members in a national mid-century prayer for peace, it was announced today by the Rev. R. Carl Maxwell, pastor of Memorial Methodist Church.

He said the call to special prayer was sounded by the Methodist Council of Bishops and the church's General Board of Evangelism in view of the 'exceptionally grave condition of the world today.'

In a letter to pastors of 42,000 Methodist churches, the board urged every congregation to unite in 'a chain of prayer on Mid-Century Sunday, beseeching God's guidance in converting a world crisis to a just and lasting peace.'

Declaring that 'mankind's hope for freedom is in desperate jeopardy,' the plea for prayer coincided with a similar request by the president of the new National Council of Churches, Episcopal Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill, of New York. He urged all Protestants to offer prayers on December 31 for 'a peace which is the fruit of righteousness.'

SPOUT SPRING TO LOSE STATION

It is understood that the Norfolk and Western Railway has secured permission of the State Corporation Commiss [illegible] Spout Spring stop in Appomattox County. No date for the discontinuance has been announced.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

The subscription price of the Times-Virginian has not inrreased during the long period of its present ownership. The rate was $1.50 a year back in 1931, when we started ownership of this paper. It has been that rate nearly all of its 58 years since 1892, even when it consisted of only four pages. In 1931, dark tobacco averaged 4.7 cents per pound. This week it is nearly 40. That's is the way things have gone up in price: including paper, metals, and the many items that go into producing our larger paper. It is with reluctance that we find ourselves forced to raise our subscription rate. But, we have no choice. Beginning January 1, 1951, our subscription rate will be $2.00 per year, payable in advance. Until January 1. we will accept new subscriptions and renewals at the old rate of $1.50 per year, but must limit all renewals to one year at that rate. See the label on your paper today. If you are not paid up a full year in advance, we advise you to renew at once. We also suggest a gift subscription as the best Christmas present you can give for $1.50.